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09/771,883	01/30/2001	Masaaki Ogura	202561US2	2675

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EXAMINER
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HUNTSINGER, PETER K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2624

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/771,883

Applicant(s)

OGURA, MASAOKI

Examiner

Peter K. Huntsinger

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 8-12, 15-19, 22 and 24-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 8-12, 15-19, 22 and 24-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- ✓ 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. The amendment filed on 16 August 2005 has been entered in full.
2. Based on the applicant's amendment, the objection to claim 12 has been withdrawn.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments filed 16 August 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

On pages 14 and 15 of the remarks, applicant argues in substance that:

**Park et al. do not teach or suggest a power supplied portion selection signal.**

- a. The examiner respectfully disagrees. In Fig. 8, the power-saving control unit 60 is disclosed within a laser beam printer. The selection of power-saving mode using signals is disclosed in a laser beam printer (col. 14, lines 11-13). Further, the power-saving control signals now indicated do not specify H.sync and V.sync signals customary for display devices.

### ***Claim Objections***

4. Claim 15 is objected to because of the following informalities: In the second paragraph of page 8, "the power-source on/of control unit" should be changed to "the power-source on/off control unit". Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-5, 9-12, 15-19, and 24-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okazawa U.S. Patent 6,459,496, Park et al. U.S. Patent 6,495,979, and Kim WO 99/66655.

Referring to claim 1, Okazawa discloses an image forming device management system in which a data communication device (interface section 150) is connected to one or a plurality of image forming devices (printing apparatus main body 100-1 and printing apparatus main body 100-2) and a central control system (host computer 130-1) is connected to the data communication device via a communication network and provides a remote maintenance of the one or the plurality of image forming devices through the communication network and the data communication device (Col. 2, lines 4-8), the image forming device management system comprising the one or the plurality of image forming devices (printing apparatus main body 100-1 and printing apparatus main body 100-2), the data communication device (interface section 150), and the

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central control system (host computer 130-1), wherein each image forming device comprises a power-source on/off control unit (input/output processor 111) automatically turning on, when a communication request signal sent by the data communication device is received by the image forming device, a supplying of a power from a main power source to the image forming device concerned (Col 4, lines 61-65), and the power-source on/off control unit automatically turning off the supplying of the power from the main power source to the image forming device after a communication between the data communication device and the image forming device ends (Col 7, lines 10-20). Okazawa does not expressly disclose a power supplied portion setting unit. Park et al. disclose a data communication device comprises a power-supplied portion selection unit transmitting a power-supplied portion selection signal to the image forming device concerned, so that any of the plurality of portions of the image forming device concerned are selected, in advance, in accordance with the power-supplied portion selection signal as being the power-supplied portions, and the power-source on/off control unit of the image forming device concerned automatically turning on, when the communication request signal is received by the image forming device concerned, the supplying of the power from the main power source to only the power-supplied portions of the image forming device concerned. (Col. 3, lines 26-47) At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate multiple power saving modes into the image forming device system of Okazawa. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would decrease the power usage in an image forming device system. Okazawa does

not expressly disclose a power-supplied portion selection signal in an internal parameter request signal. Kim discloses a power-supplied portion selection signal in an internal parameter request signal with respect to the image forming device concerned, and transmit the internal parameter request signal, containing the power-supplied portion selection signal, to the image forming device concerned, so that the image forming device concerned simultaneously receives both the internal parameter request signal and the power-supplied portion selection signal (Fig. 6, page 7, lines 7-13). Okazawa and Kim are combinable because they are from the same field of power control systems. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to allow the power-supplied portion selection unit to incorporate an internal parameter request signal with a power-supplied portion selection signal. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would allow one standard format for signals to reduce the complexity needed when processing the signal information.

Referring to claim 2, Okazawa discloses the power-source on/off control unit of each image forming device is configured to automatically turn off the supplying of the power when the image forming device satisfies predetermined power-off conditions after the end of the communication between the data communication device and the image forming device. (Col. 7, lines 10-20)

Referring to claim 3, Okazawa discloses the power-source on/off control unit of each image forming device is configured such that the power-source on/off control unit determines that the image forming device satisfies power-off conditions, when a given

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time period has elapsed after the end of the communication, and that the power-source on/off control unit automatically turns off the supplying of the power in accordance with the determination. (Col. 7, lines 10-20, particularly lines 12-15)

Referring to claim 4, Okazawa discloses the power-source on/off control unit of each image forming device is configured such that the power-source on/off control unit determines that the image forming device satisfies power-off conditions, when a given time period has elapsed after the end of the communication with the image forming device staying in an inactive condition, and that the power-source on/off control unit automatically turns off the supplying of the power in accordance with the determination. (Col. 7, lines 10-20)

Referring to claim 5, Okazawa discloses each image forming device further comprises a signal send-back unit sending, during a period from a time the supplying of the power started by the power-source on/off control unit to a time an initialization of the image forming device ends, one of an idle-state signal and an inaccessibility signal to the data communication device (S14, Col. 7, lines 60-67) in response to an inquiry signal from the data communication device (S21, Col.8, lines 35-36).

Referring to claim 9, Okazawa discloses the power-source on/off control unit of each image forming device automatically turns on, when a selecting signal, which is sent by the data communication device and designates the image forming device concerned as a destination device, is received by the image forming device concerned, the supplying of the power from the main power source to the image forming device concerned. (S35, see Col. 10, lines 25-32)

Referring to claim 10, Okazawa discloses a data communication device (interface section 150) for use in an image forming device management system, the data communication device being connected to one or a plurality of image forming devices (printing apparatus main body 100-1 and printing apparatus main body 100-2) and a central control system (host computer 130-1) being connected to the data communication device via a communication network and providing a remote maintenance of the one or the plurality of image forming devices through the communication network and the data communication device (Col. 2, lines 4-8), the data communication device comprising a request signal transmission unit transmitting a communication request signal to the image forming device concerned among the one or the plurality of image forming devices, and the image forming device concerned automatically turning on, when the request signal is received by the image forming device concerned, a supplying of a power from a main power source to the image forming device concerned (Col. 4, lines 61-65). Okazawa does not expressly disclose a power supplied portion setting unit. Park et al. disclose a data communication device comprises a power-supplied portion selection unit transmitting a power-supplied portion selection signal to the image forming device concerned, so that any of the plurality of portions of the image forming device concerned are selected, in advance, in accordance with the power-supplied portion selection signal as being the power-supplied portions, and the power-source on/off control unit of the image forming device concerned automatically turning on, when the communication request signal is received by the image forming device concerned, the supplying of the power from the main power



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source to only the power-supplied portions of the image forming device concerned (Col. 3, lines 26-47). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate multiple power saving modes into the image forming device system of Okazawa. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would decrease the power usage in an image forming device system. Okazawa does not expressly disclose a power-supplied portion selection signal in an internal parameter request signal. Kim discloses a power-supplied portion selection signal in an internal parameter request signal with respect to the image forming device concerned, and transmit the internal parameter request signal, containing the power-supplied portion selection signal, to the image forming device concerned, so that the image forming device concerned simultaneously receives both the internal parameter request signal and the power-supplied portion selection signal. (Fig. 6, page 7, lines 7-13). Okazawa and Kim are combinable because they are from the same field of power control systems. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to allow the power-supplied portion selection unit to incorporate an internal parameter request signal with a power-supplied portion selection signal. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would allow one standard format for signals to reduce the complexity needed when processing the signal information.

Referring to claim 11, Okazawa discloses the request signal transmission unit transmits a selecting signal, which designates the image forming device concerned as a

destination device, to the one or the plurality of image forming devices. (S35, Col. 10, lines 25-32)

Referring to claim 12, Okazawa discloses the data communication device comprises an inquiry signal transmission unit that transmits an inquiry signal (S21, Col.8, lines 35-36) to the image forming device concerned when one of an idle-state signal and an inaccessibility signal (S14, see Col. 7, lines 60-67) that is to be sent by the image forming device concerned during a period from a time the image forming device concerned starts the supplying of the power to a time an initialization of the image forming device concerned ends, is not received by the data communication device.

Referring to claim 15, Okazawa discloses an image forming device (printing apparatus main body 100-1) for use in an image forming device management system wherein a data communication device (interface section 150) is connected to the image forming device and a central control system (host computer 130-1) is connected to the data communication device via a communication network and provides a remote maintenance of the image forming device network and the communication network and the data communication device (Col. 2, lines 4-8), the image forming device comprising: a power-source on/off control unit (input/output processor 111) automatically turning on, when a communication request signal sent by the data communication device is received by the image forming device, a supplying of a power from a main power source to the image forming device (Col 4, lines 61-65), and the power-source on/off control unit automatically turning off the supplying of the power from the main power source to

the image forming device after a communication between the data communication device and the image forming device ends (Col 7, lines 10-20). Okazawa does not expressly disclose a power supplied portion setting unit. Park et al. disclose a data communication device comprises a power-supplied portion selection unit transmitting a power-supplied portion selection signal to the image forming device concerned, so that any of the plurality of portions of the image forming device concerned are selected, in advance, in accordance with the power-supplied portion selection signal as being the power-supplied portions, and the power-source on/off control unit of the image forming device concerned automatically turning on, when the communication request signal is received by the image forming device concerned, the supplying of the power from the main power source to only the power-supplied portions of the image forming device concerned. (Col. 3, lines 26-47) At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate multiple power saving modes into the image forming device system of Okazawa. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would decrease the power usage in an image forming device system. Okazawa does not expressly disclose a power-supplied portion selection signal in an internal parameter request signal. Kim discloses a power-supplied portion selection signal in an internal parameter request signal with respect to the image forming device concerned, and transmit the internal parameter request signal, containing the power-supplied portion selection signal, to the image forming device concerned, so that the image forming device concerned simultaneously receives both the internal parameter request signal and the power-supplied portion

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selection signal (Fig. 6, page 7, lines 7-13). Okazawa and Kim are combinable because they are from the same field of power control systems. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to allow the power-supplied portion selection unit to incorporate an internal parameter request signal with a power-supplied portion selection signal. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would allow one standard format for signals to reduce the complexity needed when processing the signal information.

Referring to claim 16, Okazawa discloses the power-source on/off control unit is configured to automatically turn off the supplying of the power when the image forming device satisfies predetermined power-off conditions after the end of the communication between the data communication device and the image forming device. (Col. 7, lines 10-20)

Referring to claim 17, Okazawa discloses the power-source on/off control unit is configured such that the power-source on/off control unit determines that the image forming device satisfies power-off conditions, when a given time period has elapsed after the end of the communication, and that the power-source on/off control unit automatically turns off the supplying of the power in accordance with the determination. (Col. 7, lines 10-20, particularly lines 12-15)

Referring to claim 18, Okazawa discloses the power-source on/off control unit is configured such that the power-source on/off control unit determines that the image forming device satisfies power-off conditions, when a given time period has elapsed after the end of the communication with the image forming device staying in an inactive

condition, and that the power-source on/off control unit automatically turns off the supplying of the power in accordance with the determination. (Col. 7, lines 10-20)

Referring to claim 19, Okazawa discloses the signal send-back unit sending, during a period from a time the power-source on/off control unit starts the supplying of the power to a time an initialization of the image forming device ends, one of an idle-state signal and an inaccessibility signal (S14, Col. 7, lines 60-67) to the data communication device in response to an inquiry signal (S21, Col.8, lines 35-36) from the data communication device.

Referring to claim 24, Okazawa discloses an image forming device management method in which a data communication device (interface section 150) is connected to one or a plurality of image forming devices (printing apparatus main body 100-1 and printing apparatus main body 100-2) and a central control system (host computer 130-1) is connected to the data communication device via a communication network and provides a remote maintenance of the one or the plurality of image forming devices through the communication network and the data communication device (Col. 2, lines 4-8), comprising the steps of: transmitting a communication request signal from the data communication device to the image forming device concerned; automatically turning on, when the request signal is received by the image forming device concerned, a supplying of a power from a main power source to the image forming device concerned (Col. 4, lines 61-65); and automatically turning off the supplying of the power from the main power source to the image forming device concerned after a communication between the data communication device and the image forming device concerned ends (Col 7,

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lines 10-20). Okazawa does not expressly disclose a power supplied portion setting unit. Park et al. disclose transmitting a power-supplied portion selection signal (Col. 3, lines 26-47) from a portion selection unit to the image forming device concerned, so that any of the image forming devices concerned are selected, in advance, in accordance with the power-supplied portion selection signal as being power-supplied portions, a supplying of power a main source to only the power supplied portions of the image forming device (Col. 13, lines 1-9), and automatically turning off the supplying of power from the main power source to the power-supplied portion of the image forming device (S20 of Fig. 5, Col. 7, lines 59-67). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate multiple power saving modes into the image forming device system of Okazawa. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would decrease the power usage in an image forming device system. Okazawa does not expressly disclose a power-supplied portion selection signal in an internal parameter request signal. Kim disclose a power-supplied portion selection signal in an internal parameter request signal with respect to the image forming device concerned, and transmit the internal parameter request signal, containing the power-supplied portion selection signal, to the image forming device concerned, so that the image forming device concerned simultaneously receives both the internal parameter request signal and the power-supplied portion selection signal (Fig. 6, page 7, lines 7-13). Okazawa and Kim are combinable because they are from the same field of power control systems. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to allow the

power-supplied portion selection unit to incorporate an internal parameter request signal with a power-supplied portion selection signal. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would allow one standard format for signals to reduce the complexity needed when processing the signal information.

Referring to claims 25-28, Okazawa discloses after reading or updating of internal parameters of the image forming device is completed, a second signal is transmitted for the data communication device to the image forming device concerned so that the supplying of the power from the main power source to all the portions of the image forming device concerned is forcefully inhibited (col. 2, lines 27-31). Park et al. disclose a power-supplied portion selection signal (Col. 3, lines 26-47).

7. Claims 8 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okazawa, Park et al. U.S. Patent 6,495,979, and Kim WO 99/66655, as applied to claim 1 and 20 above, and further in view of Kimura U.S. Patent 6,334,719.

Referring to claims 8 and 22, Okazawa discloses a power-supplied portion setting unit (input/output processor 111) setting, in advance, any of a plurality of portions of the image forming device as being power-supplied portions to which the power from the main power source is to be supplied, such that the power-source on/off control unit automatically turns on, when the communication request signal is received by the image forming device, the supplying of the power from the main power source to only the power-supplied portions of the image forming device (Col 4, lines 61-65).

Okazawa do not expressly disclose a power-supplied portion display unit. Kimura

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discloses each image forming device further comprises a power-supplied portion display unit (power save mode indicating means 123) displaying, on an operation/display portion, power-supplied portion information that indicates which of the portions of the image forming device are set as being the power-supplied portions. (Col. 6, lines 50-53)

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to display the multiple power save modes disclosed by Okazawa with the indicating means disclosed by Kimura. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this to allow the user to view and clearly know the current power save mode of the image forming device. Further, these references are directed to the same field of printing systems.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter K. Huntsinger whose telephone number is (571)272-7435. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on (571)272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PKH



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